



19 April 2006

### **Soldier Volunteerism**

1. Many of our Soldiers are deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and the Global War on Terrorism. Their absence is often stressful for their loved ones, and several families have asked for help.
2. Many organizations—including Army Community Service, chapels, Child and Youth Services, DODDS schools, and youth service organizations—are available to support families of deployed Soldiers. These organizations, however, need volunteers to meet the increasing number of requests for assistance.
3. I ask all Soldiers in the European theater to help the families of deployed Soldiers by volunteering their time and assistance. Every Soldier can help, whether by coaching a youth sports team, serving as a youth service organization leader, running an errand for an overburdened neighbor, or providing transportation for a family in need.
4. In addition to the service it provides to those in need, volunteerism provides tremendous personal satisfaction to the volunteer. By sharing our time and skills with others, we become part of something bigger than ourselves. We also learn a lot and grow from the experience. Because of this, our support, energy, and dedication can make a difference in someone's life as well as our own.
5. Volunteerism is an investment in our communities and the people who live in them. Do something positive for yourself and your community—volunteer! Please visit your Army Volunteer Corps coordinator for more details.

DAVID D. McKIERNAN  
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Commanding

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